

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAIGON 18697 301931Z

46

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DPW-01 AID-20 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 DRC-01 OMB-01

/148 W

----- 117144

R 301030Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8531

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 18697

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (ORIGINAL PROCESSED INCOMPLETE)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MOPS, VS

SUBJECT: UPPER DELTA - INCREASE IN VC/NVA ACTIVITY PROVOKES
AO CHANGES

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON FROM AMCONSUL CAN THO OCT 29
REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION

QUOTE

R 290313Z OCT 73

FM AMCONSUL CAN THO

TO RUMJIR/AMEMBASSY SAIGON 750

INFO RHMSMVA/USDAO AOSOP-OR SAIGON

RUMMRGA/USSAG NAKHON PHANOM

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAN THO 0796

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: MOPS VS

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PAGE 02 SAIGON 18697 301931Z

SUBJECT: UPPER DELTA - INCREASE IN VC/NVA ACTIVITY PROVOKES AO CHANGE

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1. VC/NVA FORCES HAVE INCREASED MILITARY PRESSURE ON THE UPPER DELTA, ESPECIALLY DINH TUONG, SINCE OCTOBER 18 (CAN THO 780). THEY HAVE OVERRUN AT LEAST FOUR GVN OUTPOSTS, AND CASUALTIES ON BOTH SIDE HAVE INCREASED. IN REACTION, THE 7TH ARVN DIVISION HAS CHANGED ITS AREAS OF OPERATION (AO) AND CANCELLED ALL LEAVES. THE 7TH DIVISION AND LOCAL RF COMPANIES HAVE ADJUSTED QUICKLY TO THE INCREASED LEVEL OF CONFLICT.

2. A NEW AO HAS BEEN SET UP IN MY AN DISTRICT WITH ONE BATTALION OF THE 15TH REGIMENT AND TWO BATTALIONS OF THE 14TH REGIMENT (BOTH 9TH DIVISION) UNDER CONTROL OF THE 44TH SPECIAL TACTICAL ZONE. ONLY ONE BATTALION OF THE 14TH REMAINS UNDER 7TH DIVISION CONTROL.

3. THE 12TH REGIMENT'S AO HAS BEEN EXTENDED FROM SOUTHERN CAI LAY UP INTO AN AREA NORTHWEST OF CAI LAY DISTRICT TOWN. 7TH DIVISION SOURCES BELIEVE THAT THIS AREA IS, FOR THE MOMENT, UNDER LESS THREAT THAN MY AN DISTRICT OF KIEN PHONG, SAM GIANG DISTRICT OF DINH TUONG, AND MO CAY DISTRICT OF KIEN HOA.

4. THE NEW 10TH REGIMENT AO RUNS FROM CENTRAL EASTERN DINH TUONG INTO CENTRAL EASTERN KIEN TUONG. THE 11TH DIVISION AO INCLUDES LESS OF NORTHERN CAI LAY THAN PREVIOUSLY, PLUS WESTERN KIEN TUONG.

5. IN RESPONSE TO INTELLIGENCE AND MILITARY ACTIVITY INDICATING INCREASED VC/NVA PRESSURE ON MO CAY AND SAM GIANG DISTRICT TOWNS (IN KIEN HOA AND DINH TUONG RESPECTIVELY) THE 7TH DIVISION HAS SENT ONE BATTALION OF THE 10TH REGIMENT TO EACH AREA TO ASSIST LOCAL RF COMPANIES. ONE BATTALION OF THE 11TH HAS ALSO GONE TO BANG LONG VILLAGE WEST OF SAM GIANG DISTRICT TOWN, WHERE THREE OUTPOSTS WERE OVERRUN LAST WEEK WITH HEAVY FRIENDLY CASUALTIES. LEHMANN

END QUOTE
MARTIN

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